

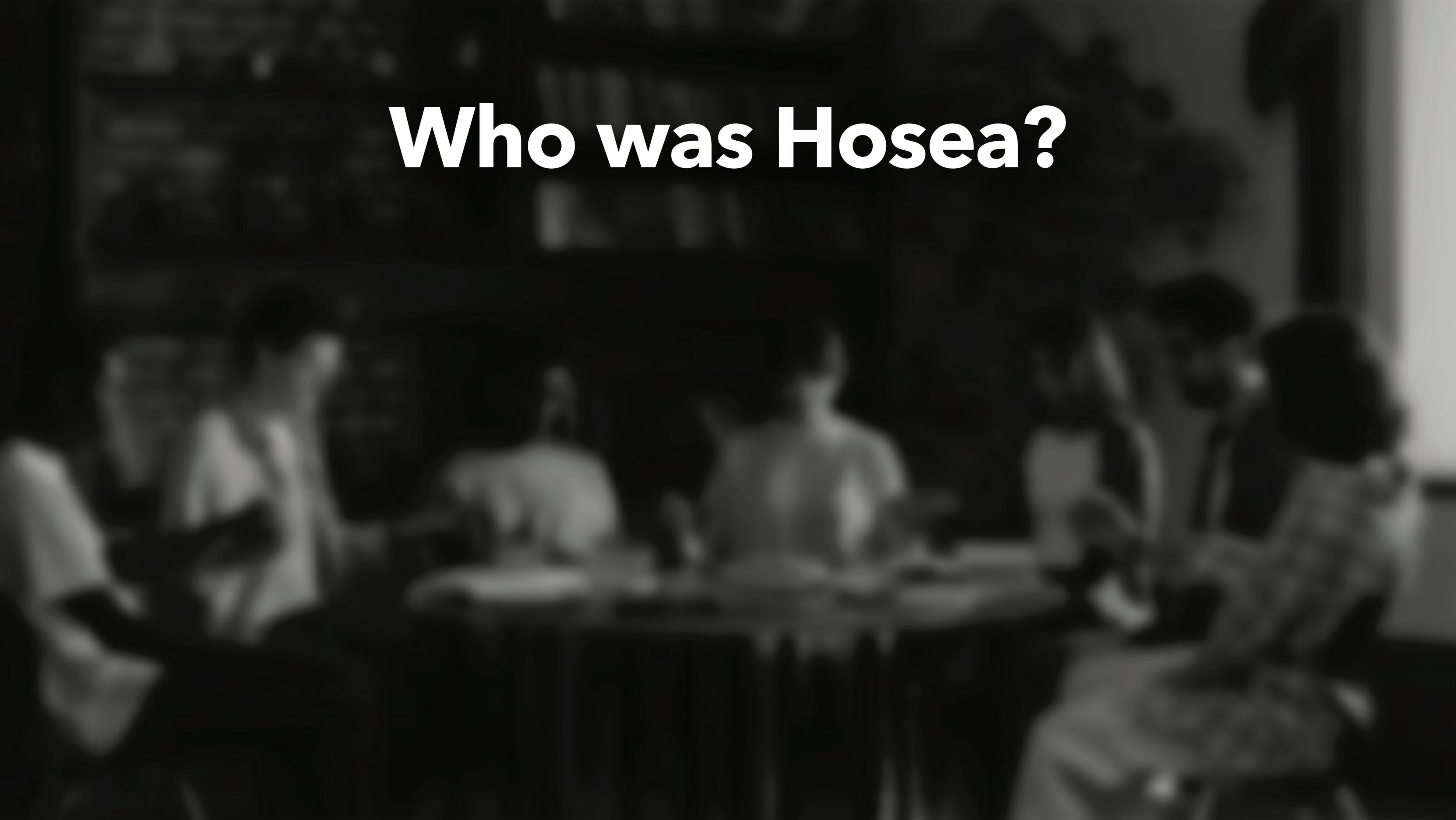
**Go,  
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**Love**

HOW THE GOSPEL IN **HOSEA** HELPS  
HEAL THE HURT IN US AND BETWEEN US

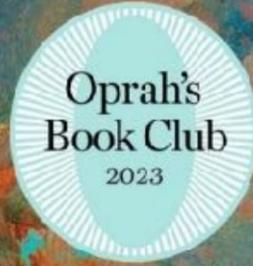
LOVE

# Who was Hosea?



FROM THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *CUTTING FOR STONE*

"From the very first page . . . I was overtaken with joy."  
—Honorée Fanonne Jeffers



# *The Covenant of Water*

*A Novel*

*Abraham Verghese*

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The word of the Lord that came to  
Hosea son of Beeri during the  
reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and  
Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and  
during the reign of Jeroboam son  
of Jehoash king of Israel:

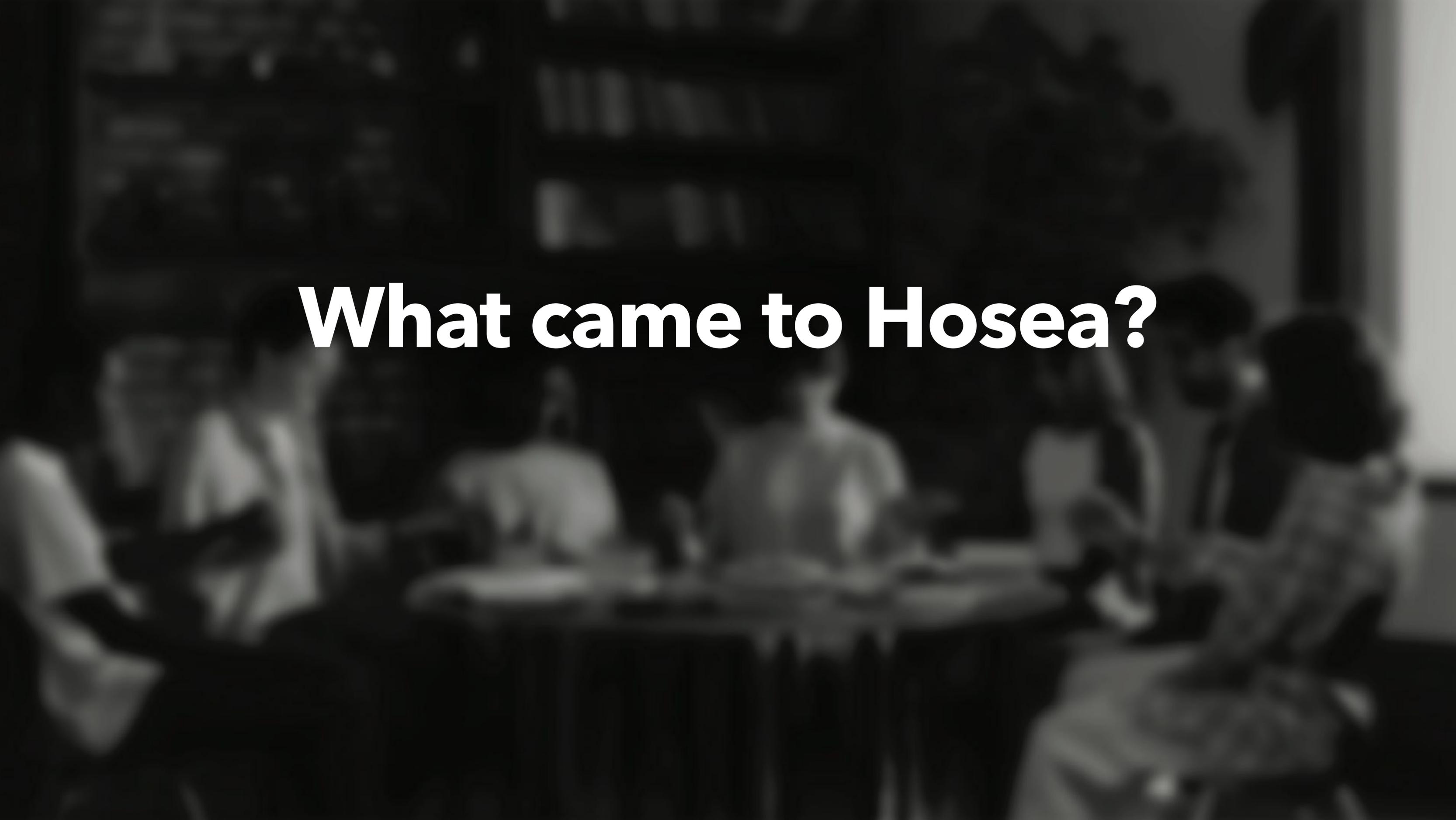
**Hosea 1:1**

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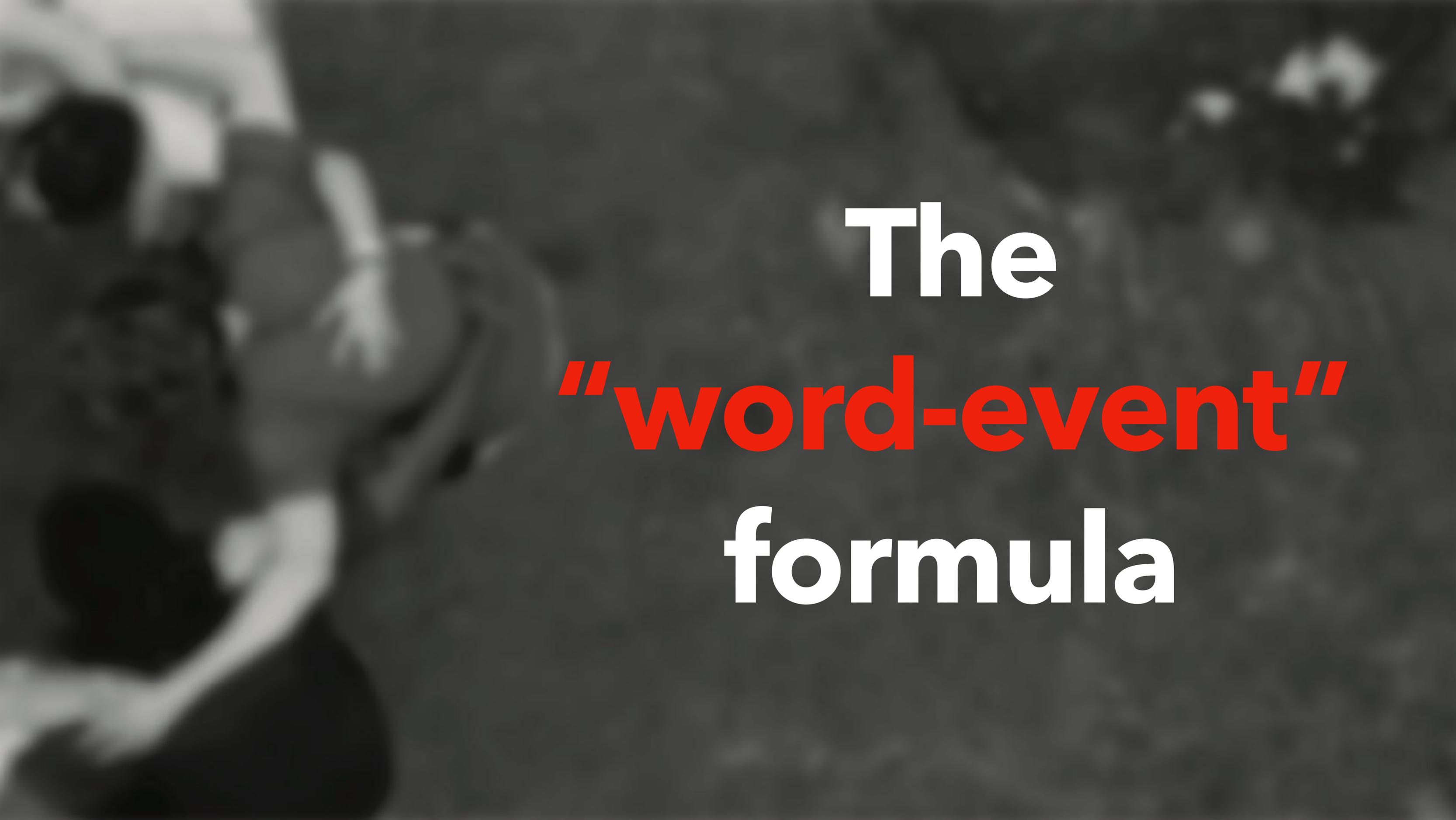
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A blurred black and white photograph of a group of people sitting around a table, possibly in a meeting or classroom setting. The image is out of focus, showing the silhouettes and general shapes of the individuals. The text "What came to Hosea?" is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**What came to Hosea?**



The  
"word-event"  
formula

*THE WORD OF THE  
LORD THAT **HAPPENED**  
TO HOSEA.*

*THE BOOK OF HOSEA IS  
A DIFFERENT KIND OF  
**DEVAR HASHEM,** THE  
WORD OF THE LORD.*

*IF THE WORD OF THE  
LORD ONLY **COMES** TO  
YOU, YOU CAN REJECT IT  
AND **RUN**, LIKE JONAH.*

*BUT WHEN THE  
WORD OF THE LORD  
**HAPPENS** TO YOU,  
THAT CHANGES YOU.*

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GOD WANTED HOSEA  
TO **BECOME** A MESSAGE  
BEFORE HE COULD  
**PROCLAIM** A MESSAGE.

HOSEA HAD TO **LIVE** THE  
WORD AND **BECOME** THE  
WORD, BEFORE THOSE  
AROUND HIM COULD  
**RECEIVE** THE WORD.

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**Why did it happen to Hosea?**

... during the reign of  
Jeroboam son of  
Jehoash king of Israel:

**Hosea 1:1**

# The Idol of Power



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**“He forcibly seized land and farms that did not belong to him, and forced them to become part of larger plantations that prospered himself and the wealthy...”**

**Dr. Sandra Richter**

***Eighth-Century Issues: The World of Jeroboam II,  
the Fall of Samaria, and the Reign of Hezekiah***

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LOVE

# The Idol of Money



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HOW THE GOSPEL IN **HOSEA** HELPS  
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LOVE

The silver I multiplied for [Israel],  
but the gold they made for Baal.

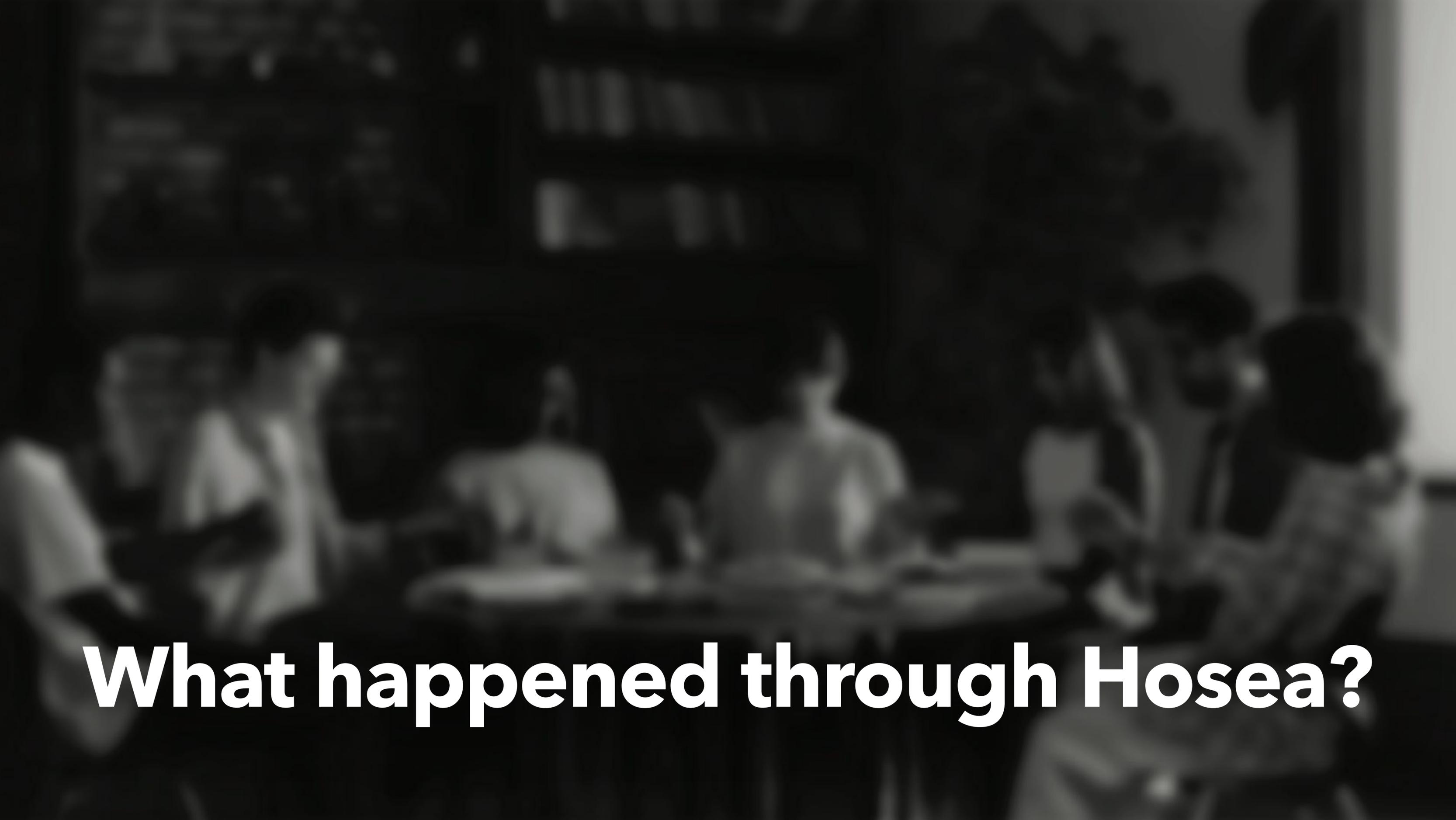
**Hosea 2:9-10**

# The Idol of Sex



...oak and poplar and terebinth...

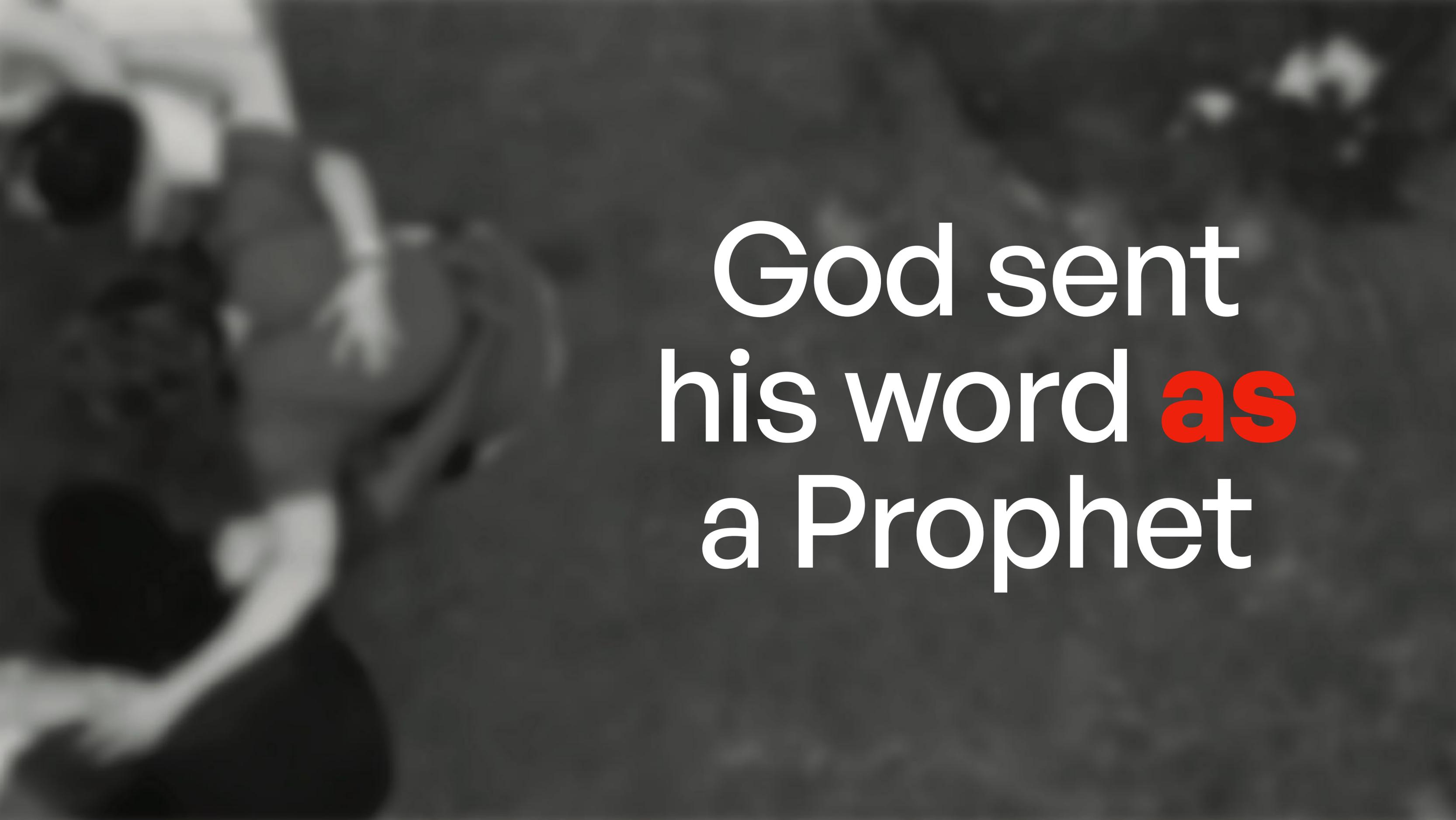
**Hosea 4:13**



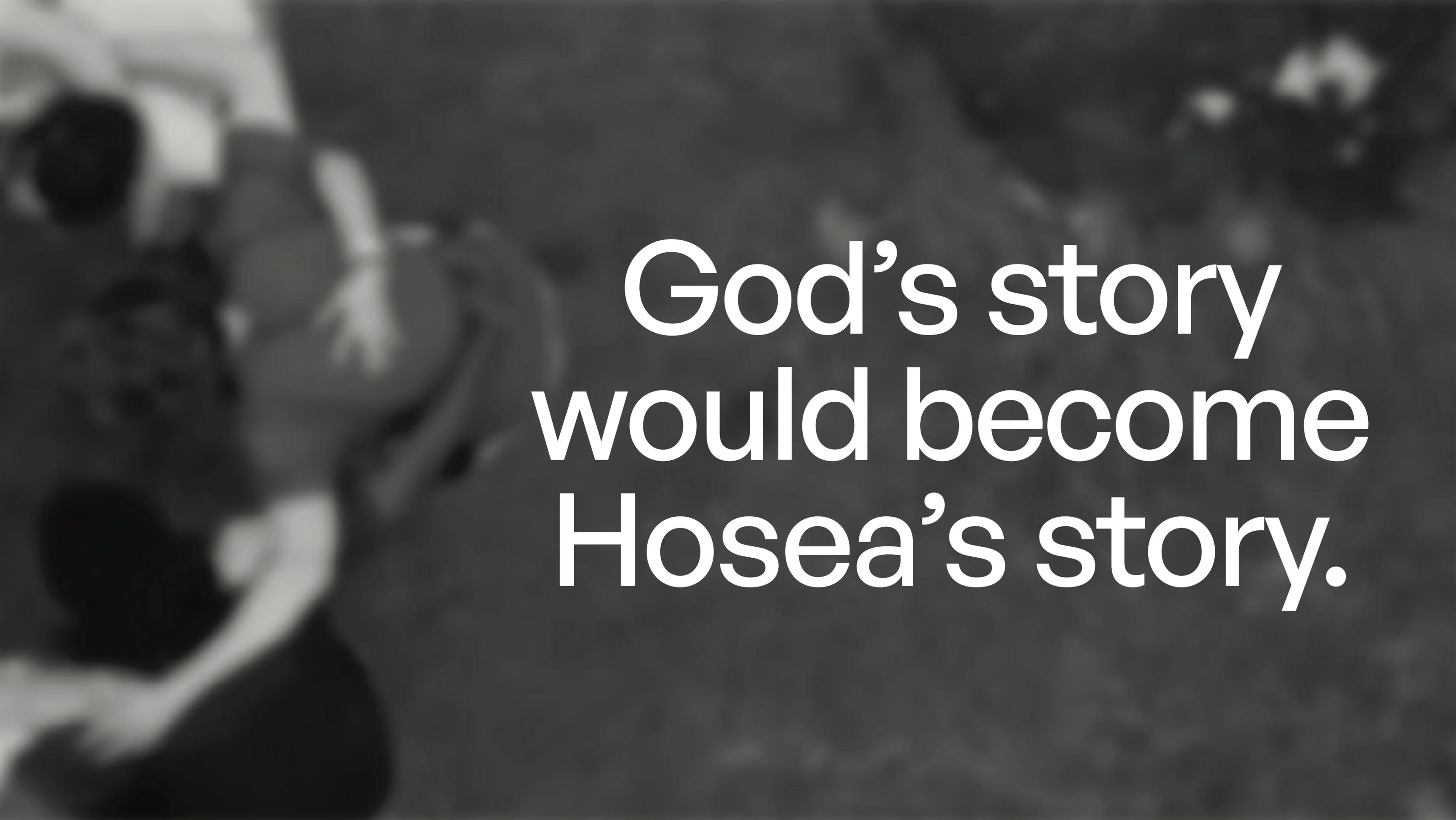
**What happened through Hosea?**

When the Lord began to speak through Hosea, the Lord said to him, "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord."

**Hosea 1:2**



God sent  
his word **as**  
a Prophet



God's story  
would become  
Hosea's story.

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In the beginning was the *Devar Hashem*, and the *Devar Hashem* was nothing less than *Elohim*

**John 1:1**

(Jewish Orthodox Translation)

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...

**Hebrews 1:1-2**

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